

ACADEMY NOMINATIONS FOR U.S.
CITIZENS IN THE CNMI**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will provide the U.S. citizens of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands with the same opportunity to attend the U.S. military academies as is enjoyed by the people of Guam and other non-State areas of our country.

This bill authorizes the Northern Marianas Resident Representative, the official elected at large to represent the Commonwealth before the Federal Government, to nominate candidates to fill one vacancy at each of the three military academies.

Currently, the people of the Northern Marianas face restricted access to West Point, Annapolis, and Colorado Springs. As U.S. citizens, they are eligible for nomination to the military academies. The Northern Marianas, however, is without representation here in Congress. Therefore, the normal route to academy appointments—nomination by a Member—is barred to these Americans.

The proposal to rectify this situation has received considerable prior study. Extending the authority for nominations was recommended in 1985 by the Commission on Federal Laws that Congress established to determine what Federal statutes should apply to the Northern Marianas.

There is also precedent for this authority to be granted to elected officials who are not Members of Congress. Under present law, the Governor of Puerto Rico can make nominations, as could the Governor of the Canal Zone before that area was returned to Panama.

Passage of the bill that I am introducing today will help ensure that the youth of the Northern Marianas have equal access to the important opportunity our military academies provide for both higher education and service to our Nation.

THE PASSING OF MRS. AMY BULL
CRIST**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep regret that I inform our colleagues of the passing of a remarkable woman Orange County's first lady, Mrs. Amy Bull Crist of Orange County, NY, this past weekend, at the age of 89.

Amy Bull Crist born on March 9, 1906 in Brick Castle, her home in Stony Ford, NY, was a lifelong resident of Orange County. The building in which she was born was built by William Bull and Sarah Wells, her direct ancestors, who in 1718 became the first European couple married in what is now Orange County, NY.

As the daughter of Orange County's oldest and most illustrious family, Amy Bull Crist could have opted for a life of leisure. Instead, at an early age she determined to devote her life to the service of others.

When she was only 18—soon after her 1924 graduation from Middletown High School—she was invited to try her hand at teaching. Weary of farm work on the family estate, she eagerly grasped the opportunity to teach and within the next 15 years, as she taught in one-room schoolhouses, at Goosetown School in Hamptonburgh and at Cross Roads School in Montgomery, she became known county wide as one of the most outstanding educators in the region. Amy looked after her students like a doting parent, arranging dental and eyeglass appointments for those students who needed it, and in many ways making her mark upon the lives whose education was entrusted to her expertise and compassion. Subsequently she served as principal at Goodwill School. By the time of her retirement in the mid-1970's, Amy had risen to become our region's top education administrator, serving not only as district superintendent of schools for Orange and Ulster County, but also as district superintendent and executive officer for the Board of Cooperative Educational Services [BOCES].

Recognizing that our young people are our most valuable resource, Amy determined that education was the most worthwhile endeavor to which she could devote herself. Her lifelong career as an educator was a living testament to those who cherish this investment in our future. As a grade school teacher, a school superintendent, and as a trustee of our Orange County Community College which she was so instrumental in funding, Amy Bull Crist touched the lives of thousands of students. She served as founder and first superintended of Orange-Ulster BOCES for many years prior to her 1974 retirement, and the affection and respect in which the community held her is underscored by the fact that the BOCES complex is named in her honor.

As was typical of Amy's style, she never satisfied herself by resting on her laurels. She continued to teach evening and summer classes at New York University, the State University College at New Paltz, and at Orange County Community College in Middletown.

Amy was one of the last of her generation: a generation which saw Orange County progress from the farming area which her family helped to pioneer to the fastest-growing region of New York State. Throughout the many changes which Amy witnessed in her lifetime, she remained constant in her beliefs that those who are more fortunate have a moral responsibility to help neighbors enjoy more productive lives and live up to their potential.

Amy's philanthropic and civic endeavors in so many important activities, including Occupations, Inc., the Orange County Mental Health Association, the Goshen Historic Track, the proposed Youth Facility for the Town of Wallkill, the American Heart Association, and so many other worthwhile endeavors, helped make a better life for all of us.

Amy also remained active with the Arboretum Committee for Orange County Park; the Montgomery Grange; the Presbyterian Church in Hamptonburgh; and the Emeriti Association of Orange County Community College. She was an honorary member of the Order of the Eastern Star in Walden. She organized the Amy Bull Crist Reading Association, the Amy Bull Crist Youth-in-Government Association, and the Orange County Farmers Association and Museum.

Emanuel Axelrod, who succeeded Army as Orange-Ulster BOCES superintendent after her retirement in 1974, said upon her passing: "She never wavered when she felt she was right. I will never forget her. She was one of the most outstanding people I've known."

Amy was chairman of the Orange County museums—Hill Hold and Brick House—the original lands and buildings of her family. She was well known for presiding at the well-publicized Bull family summer reunions which brought together her many relatives from throughout the United States and the world and which on occasion I had the pleasure of attending.

Amy, the widow of the late Clarence H. Crist, is survived by a large family including her sister, Molly B. Bazemore of Augusta, GA; two nieces, including Mary Ann Cohen of Goshen, NY; four nephews, including Michael K. Brown of Campbell Hall, NY, and William Bull Brown of Middletown; 19 great-nieces and great-nephews; and 13 great-great nieces and great-great nephews.

I often relied upon Amy for advice and assistance in many of my responsibilities in the Congress. She always had a patient ear, a keen insight, and a helping hand.

Amy left us this past weekend; peacefully in her sleep at her home, Brick Castle—the same home in which she was born 89 years earlier!

Our county, our region, and our State will long miss Orange County's First Lady, Amy Bull Crist.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon all of my colleagues to join with me in paying tribute to a truly remarkable lady.

A TRIBUTE TO JAMES SMITH

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and outstanding public service of Mr. James Smith of Ridgecrest, CA. Jim, a dedicated professional and longtime community activist, is retiring as the manager of Administration for North American Chemical Co. A tribute dinner will be held in his honor on June 2 to honor his more than 40 years of support to the chemical industry.

Jim Smith graduated from Loyola University in Los Angeles in 1954 and served 2 years in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Following graduation, Jim went to work for American Potash and Chemical Corp. where he served in supervisory and management positions at plants across the country. In 1967, Jim went to work for Kerr McGee Chemical Corp. of Trona where for 23 years he fulfilled critical functions relating to labor relations, environmental relations, and community relations. In 1990, Jim went to work at North American Chemical Co. where he has served as manager of Administration and Regulatory Affairs and most recently, as special assistant for public affairs.

To say the least, Jim has played an extraordinary and active role in our community. He is a board member of the Fire Mountain Foundation, the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, the Chemical Industry Council of California,